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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PURIFYING CITALOPRAM USING POLYBASIC ACIDS

(57) Abstract: A process of purifying citalopram, either in racemic or enantiomeric form, which process comprises (i) providing a crude mixture comprising citalopram, either in racemic or enantiomeric form, dissolved in a water immiscible organic solvent, and which mixture also includes one or more citalopram derivatives which are present as citalopram impurities; (ii) washing the crude mixture with at least one dilute aqueous solution of a polybasic acid, either in free form or as a partial alkali metal salt, so as to separate citalopram from citalopram impurities present in the crude mixture; and (iii) where required converting citalopram free base, separated from citalopram impurities further to step (ii), to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

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